

In the Drawings:

Please enter the corrections to Figure 13 as shown on the “Replacement Sheet” in the attached appendix “A”. Also attached is appendix”B” “Annotated Marked-up Drawings” showing the changes made in red on the original Figure.

In Figure 13, one of the numbers “270”, has been changed to “272”.

Remarks

In the Official Action the Examiner has made a number of objections and rejections which have been dealt with by the current amendments. These will be addressed specifically hereinafter. But first, to get a perspective of the invention, applicant provides the following overview of the invention.

The invention comprises an indexing means for mounting an outrigger holder on top of a structural part of a boat and for adjusting the position of that holder to a plurality of fixed positions in a horizontal plane. This adjustment is made from underneath the structural part of the boat, upon which the holder is mounted. To make this adjustment practicable, a bearing means is provided to take the weight of the holder and the outrigger positioned therein, while the holder is being indexed to another fixed position.

The outrigger holder is shown in Figure 29 and comprises a depending part 106 for mounting in the mounting means. An alternate version of a holder 1106 is shown in Figure 2.

The mounting means for the holder is part number 82 Figure 20 and its associated mounting plate 430 Figures 11 and 18 and screws 190.

The bearing means 120 is the bearings 124 Figures 28 and 24, the surface of the slot 128 in part 82 upon which the bearings ride, and the spring 122 that holds the bearings in the slot.

To index the holder 106, a lock 60 is provided with a pin 112 Figure 25 fixed therein. The pin is positioned to be engaged by the forked end 110 of the holder 106. The lock 60 has pins 84 Figure 20 which mate with holes 86 Figure 19 in the part 82 and retain the lock and holder in a fixed position. A release and turning mechanism is provided for pulling the lock 60 downwardly

to disengage the pins 84 from the holes 86 in part 82; thereby allowing the lock 60 to be rotated in a horizontal plane. Since the pin 112 is still embraced by the holder 106 (because it is in the slot in the forked end 110), the holder 106 turns with the lock 60. When the release and turning mechanism is released, the lock is returned upwardly and the pins on the lock 60 re-engage with the holes 86 and, thereby, hold the outrigger holder in a different fixed position. That process is what is called “indexing”; i.e. adjusting the holder to a plurality of fixed positions in a horizontal plane.

Response to the Examiner’s positions

The objections to the Drawings on Page 2, paragraph numbered 2 of the Office Action have been met by cancelling the language referenced in the first and third bullet points and clarifying the description of the indexing means in the Specification. Accordingly, the objections are respectfully traversed as moot in view of this Amendment.

The objection to the Drawings on Page 2, paragraph numbered 3 of the Office Action have been met by amending Figure 13 by adding the number “272”. Support for this amendment is found on Page 9 at line 21 of the Specification.

The objections to the Drawings on Page 2, paragraph numbered 4 of the Office Action are respectfully traversed as moot in view of this Amendment. These objections have been met by the addition of clarifying language to the Specification on page 10.

The objection to the Specification on Page 3, paragraph numbered 5 of the Office Action is respectfully traversed as moot in view of this Amendment. This objection has been met by the addition of clarifying language to the Specification on page 10.

The objections to the Specification on Page 4, paragraph numbered 6 of the Office Action

is respectfully traversed as moot in view of this Amendment. These objections have been met by amending the language of the Specification on pages 1 and 2.

The rejections of the Claim on Pages 4 and 5, paragraphs numbered 7, 8, 9, and 10 of the Office Action are respectfully traversed in view of this Amendment to Claim 1. This amendment finds support in the Specification and Drawings as originally filed. It is noted additional clarifying language (also supported by the case as filed) has been made to the Specification on page 10.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Wilcox et al

by Frank J. Benasutti

Frank J. Benasutti, Esquire

Reg. No. 24,155

Attorney for Applicant

17294 Bermuda Village Drive

Boca Raton, FL 33487

Tel: 561-994-5959

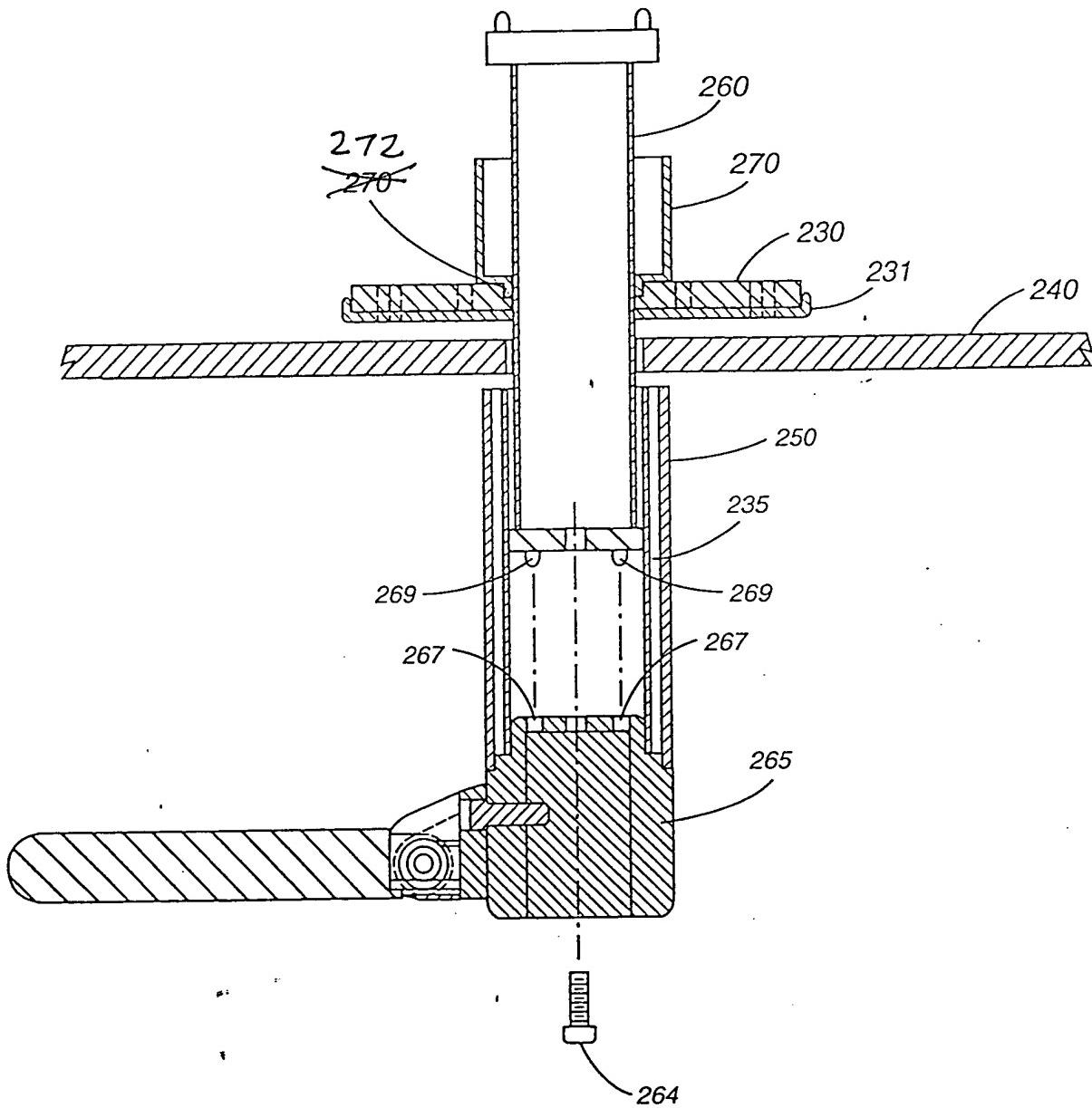
Fax: 561-994-5990

Amend20003

APPENDIX A

APPENDIX B

Annotated Marked-up drawings

**FIG. 13**